

ABSTRACT

An apparatus for positioning an introducer sheath includes a sheath having a distal end including first and second ports, the
5 second port being located distally from the first port. An obturator is slidable within the sheath that includes a distal region that sealingly engages an interior surface of the sheath. The obturator includes first and second openings in the distal region that are alignable with the first and second ports in the
10 sheath. A housing is slidable on the exterior of the sheath that releasably holds a closure element. The sheath may be inserted into an incision communicating with a blood vessel, the first and second ports providing backbleed indication of the depth of the insertion of the sheath into the vessel. The housing is actuated
15 to deploy the closure element to engage and close the incision.